a new section might be added to the Irrigation Regulation enforcing the practice. The ryots should be encouraged to use artificial manure by showing its results in model farms in the locality or in the fields of some of the ryots.

He then complained about the encroachments, by the owners of the neighbouring fields, upon the channels useful for the cultivation of the surrounding area.

Dewan's reply.—Orders have been issued to the Division Peishkars to remove all the encroachments on irrigation canals and I understand that action is being taken by them. The other points mentioned by the Member are noted.

57. Agricultural needs of the Kunnatnad taluk.

Mr. Eravi Narayana Panikkar (Member, Kunnatnad taluk) said that the benefit of the Agricultural Department had not yet reached the ryots of the Kunnatnad taluk. A large area in the taluk was left uncultivated. If the department were to advise the ryots as to the kinds of seeds that would yield a good crop in those areas, a greater portion of the taluk could have been brought under cultivation. The irrigation tanks in the taluk were out of repair for very many years and had therefore become less useful for irrigating wet lands. Funds should be allotted to the Agricultural Department for the improvement of those tanks. The Chief Engineer should also be asked to see that water from the Periyar anicut did not flow into the cultivated paddy fields of the taluk when there were rains on the hills. The water now destroyed their crops very often. The ryots might be permitted, on a system of free passes, to remove from the neighbouring forests green manure and agricultural implements. He prayed that a manure depot and an agricultural farm might be opened at Perumbavur.

Dewan.—A manure depot has been opened at Muvattupuzha to serve the ryots of the Muvattupuzha and Kunnatnad taluks.

The Member continued and said that many varieties of cattle diseases were prevalent in the locality. A veterinary hospital was therefore necessary at Perumbavur.

Dewan's reply.—The Government have sanctioned the opening of a veterinary dispensary at Perumbavur. The Director of Agriculture says that within a week the dispensary will be opened there. The other points are noted.

58. Desirability of directing an Agricultural Sub-Inspector to stay at Alangad for three months every year.

Mr. N. Atchuthan Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Alwaye) said that no improved methods of cultivation were followed by the ryots of the taluk. They were ignorant of the use of manures and the way to apply them. If the Government were not prepared to open a demonstration farm at Alwaye, the people would be satisfied if an Agricultural Sub-Inspector would go to the place at the time of cultivation and advise them on the use of particular varieties of manure for particular kinds of soil. The cultivation season began in the months of Chingam, Dhanu and Medam, and during those months the ryots required the advice of the Sub-Inspector. The Member also complained that seed-bulls were never sent to the taluk for covering cows.

Dewan's reply.—There are officers of the Agricultural Department at Parur and Perumbavur, each ten miles from Alwaye. The Director of Agriculture will be asked to arrange for either of these officers visiting the taluk occasionally. The number of seed-bulls in the department is small and it is not possible to send them to all parts of the State simultaneously. Their number is being gradually increased.

59. Agricultural irrigation in the State, with special reference to the Quilon and Kottayam Divisions.

Mr. P. E. Govinda Menon (Member, Parur taluk) said that more than two-thirds of the population of Travancore depended mainly on agriculture for their livelihood, while the grain produced could maintain only about 30% of the people. The value of rice and paddy imported in 1090 was for that reason more than

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